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## REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION.

The following report was read by the Secretary at the annual meeting of the American Statistical Association, held January 15, 1897.

*Mr. Chairman and Members of the American Statistical Association:*

This Association has lost its President. President Walker became a member of this Association in 1876, and, upon the death of Dr. Jarvis, was elected to its presidency, January, 1883. I need not add how efficiently he has performed his duties. No interest was nearer to his heart. At great inconvenience, oftentimes, he was always punctual in attendance and brought to these gatherings an eager interest, an intellectual sympathy and courtesy, never failing. To your Secretary he was a constant adviser and helper; and at every step in the development of the later growth of this Association he has been the moving spirit.

In addition to the death of President Walker, I have to record the deaths of George A. Butler, E. J. Donnell, Wm. O. Grover, M. D. Harter, George O. Carpenter, Charles F. Abbott, S. C. Peck, and John R. Lionberger.

Mr. George O. Carpenter was a member of the Finance Committee of the Association, and, while he did not take an active interest, was always sympathetic in the work of the Association.

The membership of the Association during the past year has not varied greatly. The present membership is 475 as compared with 470 a year ago. During the year 48 new members have been elected; there have been 9 deaths, 33 resignations, and 1 has been dropped, making a loss of 43. The net gain, therefore, has been 5. The number of life members is 22. If we subtract this and the number of honorary members, 6, from the 475 total membership, we have 447 paying members. To this may be added 68 subscribers, mostly libraries. This, on the present basis, gives us a total income of, say \$900.

The Association has a foreign exchange list of 120 names, and a domestic exchange list of 44.

During the past year the Association has published Nos. 33, 34, and a double number, 35 and 36. Our issues for the year 1896 are, therefore, complete. Our publication has been somewhat restricted during the past year in order, if possible, to allow our treasury to

recover from the strain which has been placed upon it in the past. Our former printer, Mr. W. J. Schofield, who so efficiently served us for many years, died during the past spring, and in the settlement of the estate it was found necessary for us to meet bills which the printer had neglected to present at an earlier date. This exhausted the funds of the treasury, but the temporary demand was kindly met by our Treasurer, who made a loan to the Association. The funds of the Association amount to nearly \$5,000, but it seemed unwise with the present low values of securities to sacrifice any of the investments which had been made of the funds of the Association. There is no doubt that, by the retrenchment which has been made in printing, this loan can be speedily paid back, and the Association can proceed without lessening its investments.

The committee of the American Statistical Association appointed to coöperate with the committee of the American Economic Association to urge the appointment of a permanent census bureau has performed such duties as seemed proper to the associated committee. Messrs. Falkner, Gould, and your Secretary were appointed a subcommittee. A memorial was drawn up and presented to the full committees at a meeting in New York a few weeks ago, and as a result a memorial has been presented to Congress.

A further step in the development of the Association's activities, which will lead to good results, it is believed, has been taken in authorizing the members living in or near Washington to hold meetings for scientific discussion. The first meeting was held on the evening of December 31, 1896, in Washington. Our late honored President made the opening address, followed by papers by Colonel Wright on the plan for a Permanent Census Bureau, and by Mr. King on Registration Statistics.

DAVIS R. DEWEY, *Secretary.*

Membership, January, 1896, . . .	470	
Additions, 1896, . . . . .	48	
	<hr/>	518
Deaths, . . . . .	9	
Resignations, . . . . .	33	
Dropped, . . . . .	1	
	<hr/>	
Loss, . . . . .		43
		<hr/>
Membership, January, 1897, . . .		475
Subscribers, . . . . .	68	
Foreign exchanges, . . . . .	120	
Domestic exchanges, . . . . .	44	